

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 28, 2008. Claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, and 19-22 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 8, 17, and 22 are in independent form. Claim 18 has been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein. Claims 8, 10, 15, 17, and 22 have been amended to define Applicant's invention more clearly. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Initially, the Examiner is thanked for the courtesies extended during the telephonic interview held on April 30, 2008. It is believed that this response, in conjunction with the Interview Summary issued by the Examiner, represents a complete written statement as to the substance of the interview, in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 713.04.

The Office Action rejected Claims 8, 10, 15, 17, 18, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Cancellation of Claim 18 renders its rejection moot. Applicant has carefully reviewed and amended Claims 8, 10, 15, 17, and 22 as deemed necessary to ensure that they conform fully to the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 101, with special attention to the points raised in section 1 of the Office Action. It is believed that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 has been obviated, and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that Claims 1, 3, and 19-21 are allowed and that Claims 8, 10, 15, 17, 18, and 22 would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101. As discussed above, Claims 8, 10, 15, 17, and 22 were amended as deemed necessary to ensure that they conform fully to the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending Claims are in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

No petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action is deemed necessary for this Amendment. If, however, such a petition is required to make this Amendment timely filed, then this paper should be considered such a petition and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite petition fee to Deposit Account 50-3939.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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